

NEW DIMENSIONS IN PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE—Edited by Charles William Wahl, M.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Chief, Division of Psychosomatic Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, Center for The Health Sciences, University of California at Los Angeles; with 13 authors. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1964. 340 pages, \$8.50.

The reviewer currently is the Psychiatrist-in-charge of the Adult Psychiatry Clinic at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco. In this position he has had the opportunity for the past twelve years to work with physicians in all specialties of medicine, dentists and members of paramedical groups.

This book is written by thirteen authors ranging in experience from an internationally known authority in the field of "Psychosomatic Medicine" to a "Fellow in Child Psychiatry." Chapters of especial interest to this reviewer were: The Development of Psychosomatic Medicine, by Franz Alexander, M.D.; Factors Which Affect Symptom Choice in Psychosomatic Medicine, by Charles W. Wahl, M.D.; The Psychodynamics of the Allergic Patient by Charles William Wahl, M.D.; On Being a Sick Physician, by Martin Grotjahn, M.D.; Iatrogenic Neuroses, by Dr. Wahl; Psychophysiologic Oral Bleeding and Periodontal Disease, by Stanley E. Willis II, M.D.; and Emotional Problems Associated with Chronic Organic Illness, also by Dr. Willis.

Dr. Grotjahn's chapter, "On Being a Sick Physician," is a delightful one to read and is filled with wisdom. It contains an attitude that, if held by all physicians, would make their work much more enjoyable, helpful, gratifying and rewarding. This chapter alone is worth the price of the book (\$8.50).

The chapters not mentioned as outstanding contained nothing new to this reviewer in the way of adding to his store of knowledge that would be of help in his service to patients, teaching or research.

HENRY F. ALBRONDA, M.D.

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RECONSTRUCTIVE PLASTIC SURGERY—Principles and Procedures in Correction, Reconstruction, and Transplantation—Edited by John Marquis Converse, M.D., Lawrence D. Bell, Professor of Plastic Surgery, New York University School of Medicine; With a section on the hand edited by J. William Littler, M.D., Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, The Roosevelt Hospital, New York City. In Five Volumes: Vol. I—General Principles; Vol. II and Vol. III—The Head and Neck; Vol. IV—Hand and Upper Extremity; Lower Extremity; Vol. V—Trunk, Genito-Urinary; Tissue Transplantation and Burn Shock. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1964. 2253 pages, plus 59 pages of index; Price: \$125 for the set of 5 volumes, or \$25 for Volume IV and \$30 each for the other volumes.

This monumental compendium on plastic and reconstructive surgery by John Marquis Converse represents a new high in reference works in this complex specialty. It is a five volume set, attractively bound and beautifully illustrated. Rather than being a presentation of the work and opinions of one individual, it is the work of 76 different authors whose names read like a "Who's Who in Plastic Surgery in the United States." The text is easily readable; the line drawings and half tones are of extremely high quality. The organization of the book is all that one could desire for brevity and clarity. The Section on the hand by William Littler is especially attractive and is illustrated by the author.

Dr. Converse has drawn from his own extensive experience in editing this very comprehensive text. Whereas it is intended as a reference text primarily, its readability will hold the interest of the reader to such an extent that one finds himself reading on beyond the point of reference on many occasions. It is a valuable edition to the plastic sur-

geons' library and will be invaluable as a reference work to those in training in the Specialty.

The cost, \$125.00, might seem excessive to some, but once the books are examined the reader will most certainly find that he gets more than value received. I am reminded also of advice given by the late Dr. Sterling Bunnell, who once said, "Never stint yourself on books or instruments. The help you get on one case will more than pay for it."

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SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH—Edited by Borys Surawicz, M.D., and E. D. Pellegrino, M.D. Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York, 1964. 222 pages, \$9.50.

This monograph is a transcription of a symposium held at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in October 1963. A wide variety of distinguished guest speakers participated both in the presentation of papers and in the discussion. Dr. E. D. Pellegrino, Professor and Chairman of the Department, introduced the subject with a thoughtful paper putting the subject in perspective. The editors also introduce each of the major chapter headings with a brief discussion which added greatly to the value of the symposium.

The subjects discussed were the anatomical basis of sudden cardiac death, the mechanism of sudden cardiac death, the vulnerable phase, ventricular fibrillation, ventricular asystole, prognosis in experimental coronary occlusion, prognosis in clinical coronary occlusion: coronary arteriography, prevention of sudden cardiac death, and sudden death and pulmonary embolism. The material in general summarized the previously published work of the distinguished participants and has relatively little new data. On the other hand, there is an extensive bibliography of 497 references which allows the reader to amplify the discussions.

The use of monitoring equipment and the development of resuscitation methods have increased the responsibility of every clinician to understand the problem of sudden cardiac death and its mechanisms. The subject of the monograph is one of obvious importance and as a review of our present state of knowledge by distinguished authorities, it serves a most useful purpose and can be warmly recommended.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.

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SCINTILLATION SCANNING IN CLINICAL MEDICINE—Based on a Symposium Sponsored by the Department of Radiology of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine—James L. Quinn, III, M.D., Editor; Assistant Professor of Radiology, Northwestern University School of Medicine; Director of Nuclear Medicine, Chicago Wesley Memorial Hospital. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1964. 278 pages, \$11.50.

This monograph consists of 19 chapters, written by some 26 contributors.

Early chapters describe the fundamental physical aspects of scanning and the pharmacological principles of radionuclide usage. The advantage of the use of phantoms is properly stressed as a means of minimizing clinical error.

Sections on scanning in relation to thyroid disease, bone metastases, intracranial neoplasms, renal lesions, and pulmonary embolism provide information of distinct clinical value. However, in the opinion of this reviewer, scanning of the pancreas, parathyroids, myocardium, and spleen is not sufficiently developed to be considered an effective addition to clinical diagnosis at present.

Illustrations, diagrams, bibliography, and index are adequate. More emphasis should be placed on radiation safety measures.

The book is recommended to those who have completed basic isotope training and are initiating a clinical scanning program.

J. H. H.